

Evaluation of the Single-Use Plastics Directive (EU) 2019/904

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

The European Commission is carrying out an evaluation of [Directive \(EU\) 2019/904](#) on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment (the Single-Use Plastics Directive SUPD – it also covers fishery items).

The Directive aims to:

- prevent and reduce the impact of certain plastic products on the (marine) environment and on human health;
- promote the transition to a circular economy by encouraging innovative and sustainable business models, products and materials;
- improve the functioning of the internal market by setting common rules across the EU.

Measures introduced by the Directive include restrictions on placing on the market (bans), the obligation to introduce consumption reduction measures for beverage cups and food containers, the requirement for plastic caps to remain attached to beverage containers, targets on recycled content and separate collection of beverage bottles, marking requirements (the ‘turtle logo’), provisions on extended producer responsibility as well as awareness raising measures.

This public consultation is part of the evaluation process required under Article 15 of the Directive. The purpose of the consultation is to:

- Gather views and experiences from citizens, businesses, NGOs, authorities, and other stakeholders.
- Assess how the Directive has worked in practice, including its effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence with other policies, and EU added value.
- Collect evidence and opinions on whether the current measures are sufficient to achieve its objectives and where improvements may be needed.

The questionnaire is open to all members of the public and organisations. Completing the questionnaire should take around 15-20 minutes. Your contribution will help the European Commission assess the Directive's impact.

About you

* Language of my contribution

- ☐ Bulgarian
- ☐ Croatian
- ☐ Czech
- ☐ Danish
- ☐ Dutch
- ☒ English
- ☐ Estonian
- ☐ Finnish
- ☐ French
- ☐ German
- ☐ Greek
- ☐ Hungarian
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Italian
- ☐ Latvian
- ☐ Lithuanian
- ☐ Maltese
- ☐ Polish
- ☐ Portuguese
- ☐ Romanian
- ☐ Slovak
- ☐ Slovenian
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Swedish

* I am giving my contribution as

- ☐ Academic/research institution
- ☒ Business association
- ☐ Company/business
- ☐ Consumer organisation
- ☐ EU citizen
- ☐ Environmental organisation
- ☐ Non-EU citizen
- ☐ Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- ☐ Public authority
- ☐ Trade union
- ☐ Other

* First name

Rafael

* Surname

Basciano

* Email (this won't be published)

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* Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

FEAD - European Waste Management Association

* Organisation size

- ☒ Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- ☐ Small (10 to 49 employees)
- ☐ Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- ☐ Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

2157643512-49

*Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

This list does not represent the official position of the European institutions with regard to the legal status or policy of the entities mentioned. It is a harmonisation of often divergent lists and practices.

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☐ Denmark

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☐ Saint Lucia

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. **For the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association', 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published.** Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

* Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

☐ Anonymous

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

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Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

☒ I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

Section B. General questions (awareness, behaviour & perceived results)

Awareness & perceptions

The SUPD aims to reduce the environmental impact of plastic waste by introducing different measures for different types of single-use plastic products (SUP) and for fishing gear containing plastic. These include

banning or restricting the most common single-use plastic items, promoting alternatives, and requiring producers to take greater responsibility for waste management.

1) Before this survey, were you aware of the EU rules on single-use plastics and fishing gear containing plastic?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

2) Since 2019, have you noticed changes in the availability of SUP products, e.g. straws, cutlery, cups, food containers, tobacco filters, beverage stirrers?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

3) How do you perceive the level of single-use plastic litter in your area compared to the level of single-use plastic litter in 2019?

- ☐ Decreased
- ☐ No change
- ☐ Increased
- ☐ Don't know

4) Which of the items covered by the SUPD do you still most often encounter as litter? (choose up to 3).

between 1 and 3 choices

- ☐ Cotton bud sticks
- ☐ Cutlery
- ☐ Plates
- ☐ Straws
- ☐ Stirrers
- ☐ Balloons
- ☐ Balloon sticks
- ☐ Food containers
- ☐ Cups for beverages
- ☐

Beverage containers

- ☐ Tobacco filters
- ☐ Plastic bags
- ☐ Packets and wrappers
- ☐ Wet wipes
- ☐ Sanitary items
- ☐ Other

5) Since 2019, have you noticed practical differences between banned SUP items (cotton bud sticks, cutlery, plates, straws, beverage stirrers, balloon sticks, EPS food and beverage containers and EPS cups for beverages) and their alternatives, e.g. plastic straws vs paper straws?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

6) Are there any unintended effects that you have observed, for example substitution by less sustainable alternatives (e.g. PFAS-coated papers), false green claims (e.g. false reusability/biodegradability claims), increased consumption of alternative items (e.g. paper-based takeaway boxes) etc.?

Effectiveness & behaviour

For single-use plastic products and fishing gear containing plastic, the effectiveness of the Directive means whether it has actually reduced the consumption and littering of single-use plastics, improved waste management, and prevented marine pollution.

7) Have tethered caps to beverage bottles affected the ways you use them and/or sort them as waste?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐

No

☐ Don't know

8) Are you aware of the “turtle label” or awareness campaigns related to SUP items?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not sure

9) Are re-use options (refill/return, deposit-return schemes) for relevant products covered by the SUPD (such as cups for beverages, food containers, beverage containers (including bottles), plates, cutlery) becoming available where you live?

☐ Yes widely

☐ Yes somewhat

☐ No

☐ Don't know

10) The SUPD bans the following SUP products: cotton bud sticks, cutlery, plates, straws, beverage stirrers, balloon sticks, EPS (expanded polystyrene) food and beverage containers and EPS cups for beverages. Have you seen such products available in online marketplaces and traditional retail stores in your EU country?

☐ Yes, often

☐ Yes, sometimes

☐ No

☐ Don't know

11) The SUPD required EU countries to introduce the following measures for fishing gear containing plastics: extended producer responsibility, national minimum annual collection rates for waste fishing gear for recycling, reporting obligations, and awareness raising measures to inform users about the availability of reusable alternatives, reuse systems and waste management options as well as about the negative impact of littering. In your view, have these measures been effective?

☐ Yes significantly

☐ Yes somewhat

☐ No

- ☐ Don't know

12) What has worked best so far in reducing the negative impacts of single-use plastics and fishing gear containing plastics?

Section C. In-depth questions related to SUP products (relevance, scope, market effects & implementation)

Relevance

The Directive is considered relevant if it responds to environmental concerns, public health issues, and citizens' expectations.

13) Please complete the following statement: "Tackling single-use plastic products in the EU is...":

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Less important
- ☐ Not important

14) The SUPD introduces different types of measures: consumption reduction, restrictions on placing on the market, tethered caps for beverage containers, recycled content, marking, extended producer responsibility (EPR), separate collection, and awareness raising. How appropriate are these types, including regarding their level of ambition?

- ☐ Very appropriate
- ☐ Somewhat appropriate
- ☐ Not appropriate
- ☐ Don't know

15) The Directive currently covers the following SUP products: cotton bud sticks, cutlery, plates, straws, beverage stirrers, balloons, balloon sticks, food containers, cups for beverages, beverage containers (including beverage bottles), tobacco filters, plastic bags, packets and wrappers, wet wipes, and sanitary items (see Part A–G of the Annex to the Directive). In your view, the current scope for the SUP products is:

- ☐ Sufficient
 - ☐ Not sufficient
 - ☐ Don't know
-

EU added value

EU added value refers to the benefits of taking action at the EU level rather than national level, which helps ensure consistent rules across all Member States.

16) Can Member States individually tackle single-use plastic items better than the EU?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

17) To what extent do you think common EU rules on single-use plastics create a level playing field for businesses across Member States?

- ☐ To a large extent
 - ☐ To a medium extent
 - ☐ Not at all
 - ☐ Not sure
-

Coherence

Coherence is assessed by judging how well the SUPD's objectives, definitions, instruments and timelines align with the referenced frameworks, and whether implementation is consistent across countries and contexts. Consider overlaps, synergies, gaps or contradictions and briefly note concrete examples or where divergence occurs.

18) Is the SUPD coherent with other EU policies (packaging, waste, Marine Strategy, tobacco control)?

- ☐ Very
- ☐ Somewhat
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

19) Is the SUPD coherent with international efforts (Regional Seas conventions, Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, etc.):

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Somewhat
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

Scope & definitions

The evaluation of the SUPD is looking at whether the current definitions used in the Directive are clear and workable. In particular, the definitions of ‘plastic’[1], and ‘single-use plastic product’[2] may affect how the rules are applied in practice across different sectors and countries.

[1] A material consisting of a polymer as defined in point 5 of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, to which additives or other substances may have been added, and which can function as a main structural component of final products, with the exception of natural polymers that have not been chemically modified.

[2] A product that is made wholly or partly from plastic and that is not conceived, designed or placed on the market to accomplish, within its life span, multiple trips or rotations by being returned to a producer for refill or re-used for the same purpose for which it was conceived.

20) Have the definitions of “plastic” and “single-use plastic product” created practical difficulties for you or your sector?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

21) Are the definitions of “plastic” and “single-use plastic product” clear and appropriate?

- ☐

Yes

- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

22) Following the Directive, cotton bud sticks and straws are exempt when used as medical devices. In your view, are the current exemptions for medical devices:

- ☐ Appropriate
- ☐ Not appropriate
- ☐ Not sure

Market & competitiveness

The evaluation seeks to understand how the SUPD has affected businesses and markets. The following questions look at different aspects of competitiveness.

23) Your role (tick any):

- ☐ Producer
- ☐ Import/export
- ☐ Seller
- ☐ Hospitality/Food service (HORECA)
- ☒ Waste management/Recycling
- ☐ Fishing gear
- ☐ Other

26) In your view, how has the SUPD impacted competitiveness in EU markets?

- ☐ Positively
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Negatively

Please explain why.

27) In your view, how has the SUPD impacted competitiveness in international markets?



Positively

☐ Neutral

☐ Negatively

Please explain why.

28) If you are an operator based in a third country: how has the SUPD impacted your activities?

☐ Positively

☐ Neutral

☐ Negatively

Please explain why.

29) Have there been any effects on trade for SUP products or alternatives (exports /imports, sourcing, lead times)?

30) How has the recycled content requirement for beverage bottles (25% by 2025 for PET bottles; 30% by 2030 for all SUP beverage bottles) affected your operations?

Costs

The evaluation also considers the costs linked to implementing the SUPD. You are invited to share any experiences with different types of costs, how manageable these have been in practice, and whether they have been passed on to customers.

32) Have you faced any costs because of (tick any):

- ☐ Product redesign
- ☐ Equipment/process changes
- ☐ Admin & reporting
- ☐ Staff training
- ☐ Other
- ☐ None
- ☐ Prefer not to say

33) How manageable have compliance costs been?

- ☐ Very manageable
- ☐ Manageable
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Difficult
- ☐ Very difficult
- ☐ Prefer not to say

34) Are costs passed through to customers:

- ☐ None
- ☐ Partial
- ☐ Full
- ☐ Not applicable
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Implementation & enforcement

Please answer based on your practical experience since the SUPD was implemented in your country/region /municipality. Consider both implementation (transposition, guidance, infrastructure) and enforcement (monitoring, inspections, penalties, compliance).

35) How do you assess the SUPD implementation overall in your country/region /municipality (enforcement, compliance):

- ☐ Well
- ☐

Moderately

- ☐ Poorly
- ☐ Don't know

Please explain why.

36) What have been the obstacles to the SUPD implementation?

37) How enforceable have the SUPD requirements been? Please explain why when ticking an answer

- ☐ Easy to enforce
- ☐ Moderately easy
- ☐ Difficult
- ☐ Don't know

Please explain why.

39) Are current reporting obligations (Article 13) fit for purpose, i.e. provide enough information to fulfil their purpose?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

Open feedback

40) Do you have any suggestions on how to simplify aspects of the SUPD that might appear overly complex without undermining its objectives?



Contact

ENV-SUPD-EVALUATION@ec.europa.eu